

IN THE CLAIMS:

The amended claims are set forth in a mark up version below.

1. (Original) Applicator for strings characterized in that dimethyldichlorosilane polymer is retained in a retainer.

2. (Original) Applicator for strings according to claim 1 characterized in that dimethyldichlorosilane polymer has a viscosity of 40 to 1000cs.

3. (Original) Applicator for strings according to claim 1 characterized in that dimethyldichlorosilane polymer has a viscosity of 100 to 1000cs.

4. (Original) Applicator for strings according to any one of claims 1 to 3 characterized in that dimethyldichlorosilane polymer contains scourer.

5. (Currently amended) Applicator for strings according to any one of claims 1 to ~~4~~3 characterized in that dimethyldichlorosilane polymer contains colorants.

6. (Currently amended) Applicator for strings according to any one of claims 1 to ~~5~~3 characterized in that the retainer has liquid absorbing and retaining properties.